

## Official Statement

WHEREAS, THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION HAVE DECLARED NOVEMBER 13-17, 2006 AS INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION WEEK IN OBSERVANCE OF THE MANY IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTIONS OF INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION TO OUR NATION; AND

WHEREAS, INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION AND EXCHANGE INCLUDE THOUSANDS OF PROGRAMS, PUBLIC AND PRIVATE, CAMPUS-BASED AND NATIONAL, THAT PROMOTES THE SHARING OF IDEAS AND EXPERIENCES ACROSS BORDERS. THESE INCLUDE STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS, CITIZEN AND SCHOLARLY EXCHANGES, FOREIGN STUDENTS ON U.S. CAMPUSES, AREA AND FOREIGN LANGUAGE STUDIES, AND GLOBAL APPROACHES TO U.S. EDUCATION; AND

WHEREAS, BY PARTICIPATING IN SUCH PROGRAMS OUR YOUNG PEOPLE DEVELOP A GREATER APPRECIATION AND RESPECT FOR OTHER PEOPLE AND THEIR CULTURES, AND BREAK DOWN BARRIERS TO UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATION, WHICH ARE VITAL TO PEACE AND PROSPERITY; AND

WHEREAS, WE LIVE IN AN INCREASINGLY INTERCONNECTED WORLD AND IMPROVING GLOBAL LITERACY AMONG OUR CITIZENS, CONTRIBUTES SIGNIFICANTLY TO OUR NATION'S FOREIGN POLICY, ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS AND NATIONAL SECURITY; AND

WHEREAS, I CALL UPON THE CITIZENS AND INSTITUTIONS OF THIS STATE TO PARTICIPATE IN CELEBRATING THIS WEEK AND TO RECOGNIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION IN OUR LIVES AND COMMUNITIES;

NOW, THEREFORE, I KATHLEEN BABINEAUX BLANCO, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM NOVEMBER 13-17, 2006 AS INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION WEEK AND I CALL THIS OBSERVANCE TO THE ATTENTION OF ALL OUR CITIZENS.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Executive Seal of the State of Louisiana, at the Capitol, in the City of Baton Rouge, on this

the \_\_\_\_\_\_ 13TH \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_ NOVEMBER \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 2006

Governor of Louisiana